

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action dated January 5, 2010. Claims 25 to 28 are pending in the application. Claims 25 and 27 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 25 to 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,896,203 (Shibata) and U.S. Publication No. 2002/0051212 (Kobayashi). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 25 and 27 generally concern managing data in multiple formats. An original is scanned, and a first image data is generated in a first data format which is a RAW format. In addition, second image data is generated from the first image data, in a second data format other than the RAW data format. A single page management record is generated for managing the first image data and the second image data.

According to aspects of Claims 25 and 27, the first image data and the second image data represent the same image. The single page management record manages the second image data in association with the first image data, such that the second image data and first image data are managed together. Additionally, the single page management record can be accessed in parallel by first and the second data processing units. The single page management record is deleted in a case that (a) a delete request of the single page management record is received from at least one of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit and (b) neither of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit is referring to the single page management record.

Referring specifically to claim language, independent Claim 25 is directed to a data processing apparatus. The apparatus includes a scanner processing unit constructed to optically scan an original and generate a first image data in a first data format which is a RAW format, and a memory management unit constructed to generate a single page management record for managing the first image data. The memory management unit generates the single page management record responsive to a request made by the scanner processing unit when scanning the original. An encoding unit is constructed to generate a second image data from the first image data, in a second data format other than the RAW format. The first and second image data represent the same image. A first data processing unit is constructed to execute a first predetermined processing using the first image data in the RAW format, and a second data processing unit is constructed to execute a second predetermined processing using the second image data in the second format. The memory management unit causes the single page management record to manage the second image data in association with the first image data, such that the first image data and the second image data are managed together. In addition, the memory management unit manages the single page management record so that the single page management record can be accessed in parallel by the first and the second data processing units. The memory management unit deletes the single page management record in a case that (a) a delete request of the page management record is received from at least one of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit and (b) neither of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit is referring to the single page management record.

Independent Claim 27 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 25.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of Claims 25 and 27, and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) causing a single page data management record to manage first image data in a RAW format together in association with second image data generated from the first image data in a second format, wherein the first and second image data represent the same image, (ii) managing the single page management record so that the single page management record can be accessed in parallel by first and second data processing units, and (iii) deleting the single page data management record in a case that (a) a delete request of the page management record is received from at least one of a first data processing unit or a second data processing unit and (b) neither of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit is referring to the page management record.

As understood by Applicants, Shibata is directed to a facsimile apparatus which compresses and encodes raw image data to produce MMR transmission image data. See Shibata, Abstract and Figure 6. A flag is set to represent whether single page image data contains only MMR image data, or both the raw image data and the MMR image data.

Pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action assert that Shibata (Figures 7A and 7B Column 9, lines 12 to 31 and 40 to 41 and Column 13, lines 12 to 30) discloses first and second image processing units, and a memory management unit which causes a page management record to manage second image data in association with first image data.

In this regard, the cited portions of Shibata disclose that image data comprises both raw image data and MMR image data. See, e.g., Shibata, Column 9, lines 12 to 31.

However, as understood by Applicants, Shibata's raw image data and MMR image data represent different images. In particular, the raw image data represents an image of one portion of a page, and the MMR image data represents an image of a different portion of the page. See, e.g., Shibata, Figures 6 and 9 to 11 and Column 11, line 26 to Column 13, line 56. Thus, in Shibata, the image represented by the raw image data differs from the image represented by the MMR image data.

Thus, Shibata is not seen to disclose or suggest first and second image data which represent the same image, much less (i) causing a single page data management record to manage first image data in a RAW format together in association with second image data generated from the first image data in a second format, wherein the first and second image data represent the same image, (ii) managing the single page management record so that the single page management record can be accessed in parallel by first and second data processing units, and (iii) deleting the single page data management record in a case that (a) a delete request of the page management record is received from at least one of a first data processing unit or a second data processing unit and (b) neither of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit is referring to the page management record.

Kobayashi is not seen to remedy the deficiencies of Shibata. As understood by Applicants, Kobayashi is directed to managing page-by-page information including parameters for JBIG encoding. See Kobayashi, Abstract.

Page 5 of the Office Action asserts that Shibata (paragraph [0043]) discloses deleting a single page data management record in a case that (a) a delete request of the page management record is received from at least one of a first data processing unit or a second data processing unit and (b) neither of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit is referring to the page management record.

In that regard, the cited portions of Kobayashi simply disclose decoding encoded data, and then releasing page management information for the encoded data. See Kobayashi, paragraph [0043].

However, Kobayashi is not seen to disclose or suggest first and second image data which represent the same image, much less (i) causing a single page data management record to manage first image data in a RAW format together in association with second image data generated from the first image data in a second format, wherein the first and second image data represent the same image, (ii) managing the single page management record so that the single page management record can be accessed in parallel by first and second data processing units, and (iii) deleting the single page data management record in a case that (a) a delete request of the page management record is received from at least one of a first data processing unit or a second data processing unit and (b) neither of the first data processing unit or the second data processing unit is referring to the page management record.

Therefore, independent Claims 25 and 27 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons.

Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the claims, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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